

**FEBRUARY 1994**

# **PAARA 1994 EVENTS CALENDAR ISSUE**

**(SEE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE)**

# PAARA

## 1994 OFFICERS & BOARD

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VICE PRESIDENT - ANDY KORSAK VE3FZK  
SECRETARY - JOHN GOMPERTS WB7TEM  
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### PAARA/GRAPHS STAFF

EDITOR  
MAILING

CHUCK JOHNSON	N6VFH	408-251-8536
BILL McELHINNEY	KA6LZI	415-325-9808

### PAARA POLICIES

MEMBERSHIP IN PAARA IS \$6.00 PER CALENDAR YEAR WHICH INCLUDES A SUBSCRIPTION TO PAARA/GRAPHS. MAKE PAYMENT TO THE PALO ALTO AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, P.O. BOX 911, MENLO PARK, CA 94026

CLUB NET 147.45 MHZ MONDAYS 8:30 PM

MEETINGS: 7:30 PM ON THE FIRST FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH AT THE MENLO PARK RECREATION CENTER, 700 ALMA STREET.

SEND PAARA/GRAPHS CORRESPONDENCE TO:

CHUCK JOHNSON N6VFH, EDITOR  
3309 MT. LOGAN DRIVE  
SAN JOSE, CA 95127

VOLUME 37

FEBRUARY 1994

## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

CHECK OUT THE EVENTS CALENDAR  
PRESENTED BY N6PGM AND GET  
READY FOR A GREAT PAARA YEAR!  
TIL NEXT MONTH, 73 DE YOUR EDITOR.

## SPEAKER OF THE MONTH



DE ANDY VE3FZK

## JOHN PORTUNE AA6NG

JOHN WILL ENLIGHTEN US ON HIS STRATEGY...

***BUILD YOUR OWN SUPER-DUPER UHF/UHF CAVITIES  
& RESONATORS & SAVE A BUNDLE***

**JOHN'S HANDIWORK IS IN OPERATION THROUGHOUT  
THE WEST MAKING THE AIRWAIVES SAFE FOR BUSY  
COMMUNICATION LINKING & IS A TRIBUTE TO HIS HAM  
SKILL & DETERMINATION TO DO IT GOOD, DO IT CHEAP!**

**DINNER WITH SPEAKER, SU HONG, EL CAMINO OFF RAVENSWOOD,  
MENLO PARK, 6PM MEETING FRIDAY FEBRUARY 4TH !**

# THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

1994 has gotten off to a great start and promises to be PAARA's best year. Here is our calendar of events:

- Feb 4** - general meeting
- Feb 16** - board meeting
- Mar 4** - general meeting
- Mar 16** - board meeting
- April 1** - general meeting
- April 20** - board meeting
- May 6** - general meeting
- May 18** - board meeting
- June 3** - general meeting
- June 4** - PAARA / W6UG Spring Picnic (Sat.)
- June 25 & 26** - PAARA Field Day 1994
- July 8** - general meeting
- July 20** - board meeting
- Aug 5** - general meeting
- Aug 17** - board meeting
- Sept 9** - general meeting
- Sept 10** - PAARA FOOTHILL FLEA MARKET (Sat.)
- Sept 21** - board meeting
- Oct 7** - general meeting
- Oct 8** - PAARA AMPEX AUCTION (Sat.)
- Oct 19** - board meeting
- Nov 4** - general meeting
- Nov 16** - board meeting
- Dec 2** - general meeting
- Dec 7** - PAARA HOLIDAY BANQUET

Remember to pay your dues to Ron KD6RFI at the meeting or send them to the P.O. Box by March 15 if you want to be included in the PAARA Roster. If you have items of historical interest to the club please contact Steve K6FS, our club historian. See you at the meeting Feb 4.

DE LILY N6PGM

# TNX TO COAX DE UR EDITOR

TNX TO COAX (COALITION OF AMATEUR EXPERIMENTERS) WHO SHOWED UR EDITOR A GREAT TIME AT THEIR 1ST MEETING OF THE NEW YEAR JAN. 12TH, HELD IN THE LUXURIOUS CONFINES OF MOUNTAIN MIKES PIZZERIA IN CAMPBELL. SPECIAL MENTION TO COAX NEWSLETTER EDITOR MIKE KD6EUD, WHO AFFORDED US SOME VERY KIND AND THOUGHTFUL WORDS IN HIS PUBLICATION! AS ALWAYS, OUR VERY BEST TO MIKE AND THE GROUP! -ED.

## KUDOS TO KANTRONICS


HATS OFF TO KEN KOOW AT KANTRONICS TECH SUPPORT FOR HIS EXCELLENT KNOWLEDGE & ASSISTANCE WITH YOUR EDITOR'S TECHNICAL INQUIRIES. KEN IS THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR OF HIS LOCAL HAM GROUP AND IT WAS GREAT TO MAKE HIS ACQUAINTANCE. -ED

## IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!

FOR YOUR '94 DUES-PAYING CONVENIENCE A STICKERED ENVELOPE IS PROVIDED ALONG WITH THIS ISSUE FOR YOU TO SEND YOUR CHECK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6.00 PAYABLE TO PAARA. IF YOU HAVE DONE YOUR DUTY ALREADY THEN YOU MAY DISREGARD THE NOTICE. OTHERWISE, NOW'S THE TIME! 73 DE PAARA, BOX 911, MENLO PARK, CA 94026.

COAX QST DE MIKE KD6EUD

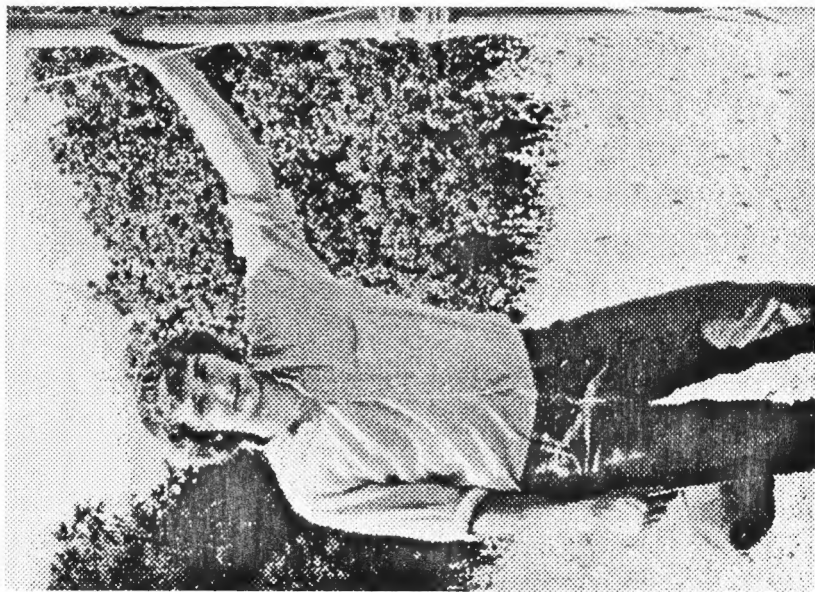
**COAX**



'COAX' Coalition of Amateur Experimenters  
Meets Every second & fourth Wed nite at  
Mountain Mike's Pizza on Hamilton Ave. in Campbell.  
Meetings start at 7:00 P.M. Lets have some FUN.

SUNNYVALE VEC TEST HOTLINE. INCLUDES PAARA VE TEAM AMPEX CAFETERIA TEST DATES AND LATEST FCC INFORMATION. (408)255-9000.

## THE 1970s



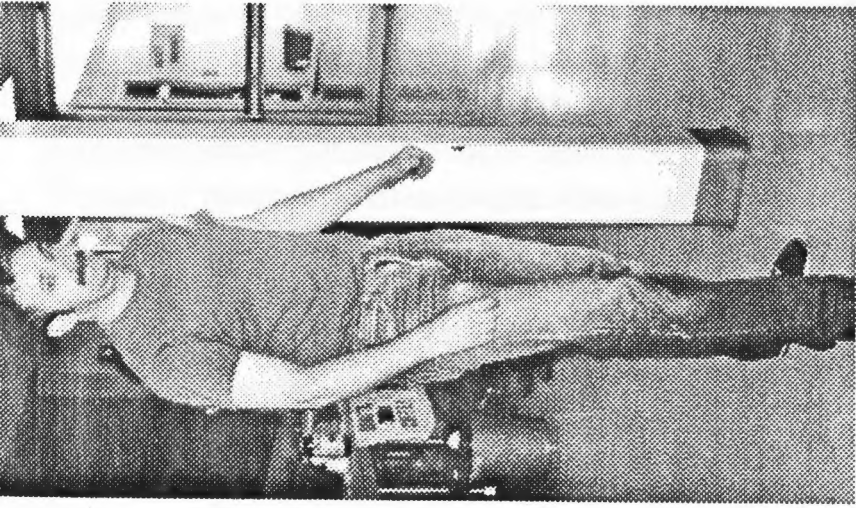
## THE 1980s

<p>MENLO PARK C.D. RADIO CLUB, KSYQT</p>	<h1>PAARA</h1> <p><b>graphs</b> vol. 26 May 1984</p>	<p>PALO ALTO AMATEUR RADIO ASSN., W6OTX</p>		<p>Poul Thelen, N4FEG, finds a bargain!</p>
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# THREE DECADES OF UNSUNG HEROISM - PAUL N6FEG

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These PAARA historical photos illustrate the sustained excellence of service of PAARA's very own Paul N6FEG. The top left photo is from the 70s Field Day era, the top right from the 80s Flea Market Cycle, and the bottom left from the 1993 Ampex Auction. As a ham and as a club member Paul has distinguished himself over time to where his susceptibility to journalistic notice was inevitable. The result is his being saluted as an unsung hero of the 70s, the 80s, the 90s and beyond! Congratulations and keep up the good work! -ED.



1993



# MORE OF RICH W6APZ'S ADVERTURES IN EI-LAND

(PART OF A CONTINUING SERIES)

While listening to two EI stations converse one day, the XYL commented that what she heard sounded like English, but she did not understand a word! I had the same reaction. In fact, one contact I made while waiting in the car for the XYL to finish a purchase, was full quieting, but I had a difficult time understanding everything being said to me due to the different accent. This was a big impediment to casual QSOs. Spending a relatively short time in the country, I did not have enough exposure to the thick Irish accent to learn to grasp what was being said the first time. In person, it is easier to request a clarification or to ask someone to spell a word.

One interesting contact I made while driving in County Donegal (Northern part of the Irish Free State) was with a GI3 station via the Belfast repeater. Mid sentence he said QRX and went off the air. A minute or so later he called me to explain that when a GI3 station says QRX and disappears, that means they have to go through a check point and have to hide the microphone to eliminate questions. He was driving within Northern Ireland. This concept of check points looking for terrorists was a new experience for us. We did not encounter them in the Irish Republic.

(TOBECONTINUED....)

## **WANTED: WORKING OR NOT WORKING**

- VINTAGE (TUBE) HAM RADIO GEAR
  - STRAIGHT CW KEYS AND MISC. PARTS
- CONTACT CLINT, KM6NJ (408) 742-4582



# QST DE KOERT KC6WCI

PAARA Elmer Program

It is obvious that there are many 'hidden' skills among our members. Some of you are experts on packet or other digital forms of communication, for many of you HF is way of life, others explore satellite communications, meteor bouncing, what have you and some of you know testing equipment inside out.

Why not share your knowledge on these subjects with new hams in PAARA or hams who need a hand in the area you have mastered. Wouldn't it make sense that you 'register' with me as an expert in a particular field who is willing to teach other hams? I would publish a resource list periodically which would be made available to all members. Members could then contact you for some hands-on help as needed or just to satisfy their curiosity about certain aspects of the hobby. It would surely elevate the technical skills of many and let them enjoy more aspects of the hobby.

Probably we could even publish an annual schedule of when elmer sessions would be given, on which subjects and at which QTH. Think about it! I will bring it up at the next meeting and see if we can get something going. I believe it would be fun for everyone and new hams, in particular, would feel welcome.

73/Koert KC6WCI PAARA Board Member

## PAARA VE TEAM QST DE RON W6UG

JANUARY 15, 1994 SAW A DEARTH OF APPLICANTS AT THE VE EXAMS AT THE AMPEX CAFETERIA. UNDER THE ABLE DIRECTION OF "GURU", JOE HORNE SR, KB6OWG, THERE WERE A TOTAL OF 8 VE VOLUNTEERS ON HAND. THERE WERE A GRAND TOTAL OF 11 APPLICANTS. MAYBE THE FOOTBALL GAMES AT STANFORD, CANDLESTICK, AND ON TV KEPT WOULD-BE HAMS & UP-GRADERS AWAY FROM AMPEX. GOOD SCORES WERE TURNED IN BY ALL APPLICANTS. CONGRATULATIONS. THE FINE STAFF INCLUDED JOAN CHOPIN WA6BXT, GENE IRIZARRY KK6LO (FREMONT), STEVE STUNTZ K6FS, BILL SOOMANN WB6UVO, DAN CURRY WB6STW (PAARA BOARD MEMBER), TOM HODGES W6ARE (LOS ANGELES), & RON PANTON W6UG. (DONUTS, THANKS TO TOM HODGES - APPLES, THANKS TO JOAN CHOPIN.)

### REMEMBER-

**OPEN HOME BREW NITE NOW AT EVERY MEETING. BRING UR CREATIONS TO SHOW-'N-TELL WITH THE CLUB! MEETING FRIDAY JANUARY 7TH! BE THERE OR BE SQUARE! - YE OLDE NOTICE**

# HISTORY OF THE FIELD DAY AWARD VIA SMRC

**T**his plaque was first awarded in 1952 and reintroduced in 1972, under the auspices of the Central California Radio Council. After the 1979 presentation, the original plaque was too small to accommodate any more inscription plates, so Beryl Shade WB6BRL (SIRARC) gave the CCRC a 16"x23" solid oak board he made from his Mother's dining room table, a table that survived the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake and Fire, and Ed Turner W6NVO (SMRC) provided a number of solid brass nameplates used to



PAARA Secretary John Gomperts WB7TEM & The FD Award

identify 1929 Globe Wireless Ltd. Radio Receivers. Sy Stein WA6ROM (Perham Foundation) cut, drilled and polished forty inscription plates he was able to make from the brass and mounted them with the original castings on the new board. In 1989, the Central California Radio Council turned the plaque over to the San Mateo Radio Club, which administers its award annually.

# RADIO HELP VIA STEVE KD6CNU

(FROM RADIO FUN MAGAZINE)

## A Filter to Eliminate Alternator Whine

*An easy method of quieting your mobile rig.*

by Bruce Hammond AA8HS

Alternators and other electrical devices in today's cars produce pulses of changing frequency that can be transferred along the vehicle's electrical system. This creates what is commonly called "alternator whine." It changes pitch with the speed of the engine. This particularly affects digital radios and can become worse with high power draws while transmitting. The usual solution has been to power the HT or mobile rig directly from the car battery. This method may be inconvenient, impossible, or may not eliminate the problem at all! The pulses can be transmitted directly through the battery, depending on how devices are wired into the electrical system.

Since my car's digital AM-FM stereo radio had no alternator whine and is connected to the fuse box, I knew that filtering was a solution to severe "whine" in an HT or mobile rig. The filter shown is very effective and works to a 10 amp current drain. It is extremely simple to build and costs about \$21 with new parts, although junk box devices could also be used effectively. Larger capacitors and chokes can be used for higher current. It essentially duplicates the type of filtering used in high power stereo equipment where a flat DC voltage is needed with extremely little AC component.

Capacitors C1, C2 and C3 on the input side

filter AC signals of low, medium and high frequencies. The Radio Shack 270-051 noise filter blocks AC components from the positive or negative side. I don't know the exact contents of the Radio Shack filter unit but resistance measurements show 0.3 ohms between each of the red and black leads, which is consistent with reasonably large chokes. There may also be some parallel capacitance. Connecting the two black leads together would eliminate the minimal voltage drop across the negative side choke but this does not appreciably affect performance. C4, C5 and C6 remove any residual AC signal. C4 is particularly large and helps to eliminate the effects of transient changes in the electrical system voltage. It's a good idea to tap into the fuse box at an accessory outlet or cigar lighter since these points are more likely to be independent of the ignition switch. The radio should be grounded as directly as possible to the car body, as the mobile antenna should be. For temporary operation, a cigar lighter plug alone can be used for both positive and negative leads.

Be sure to select the right size fuse for the radio that you plan to use. The filter can be built in any enclosure that you like. After soldering all leads together, I insulated the exposed wire leads with electrical tape and wrapped the entire assembly in thick cloth, placing it under the car seat. Good luck!

RF

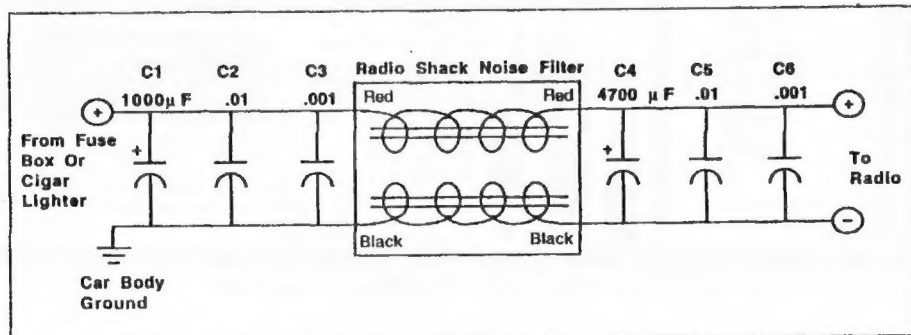


Figure 1. A filter to eliminate alternator whine. All capacitors are 35 volts or more. C1 and C4 are electrolytics.

— \$1 STORE BUYING POWER —



# HAM RADIO OUTLET

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2M/440 Dual Band  
40 Mem. Channels  
DSQ, Dual Display  
CTCSS Enc/Dec Built-in  
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2 Mtr 440 Mhz  
2W 2M/2W 440  
5W optional  
Direct DC Input  
Built-in VOX, 41 Mem.  
DTMF paging, CTCSS built-in

#### FT-411

2M HT  
Standard 2.5W; 49 Mem  
2m/140 to 174 Mhz  
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HF Transceiver

World's smallest HF transceiver  
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Gen. Cov. RX, 6.4 lbs., 7.16 x 2.4 x 9.32"  
105 db dynamic range, 100 Mem.  
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IC-P3AT, 220 Mhz  
IC-P4AT, 440 Mhz  
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### DR-600T

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45W/35W + Airband RX  
Detachable/Removable Head  
Keyboard freq. entry from microphone!  
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### FT-990



100W HF Gen Cov Transceiver  
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240 Mem. w/optional  
mem. unit  
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#### TH-48A

440/1.5W DTSS  
240 Mem. w/optional  
mem. unit  
2 MTR RX

#### TH-225A

2 MTRS/5W

#### TH-315A

220MHz/2.5 W

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12V 100W w/auto Ant. Tuner  
Built-in Gen Cov. RX, 101 Mem.  
DDS, QSK, Passband tuning  
**Priced So Low, We Can't Print It!  
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